



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

27 October 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

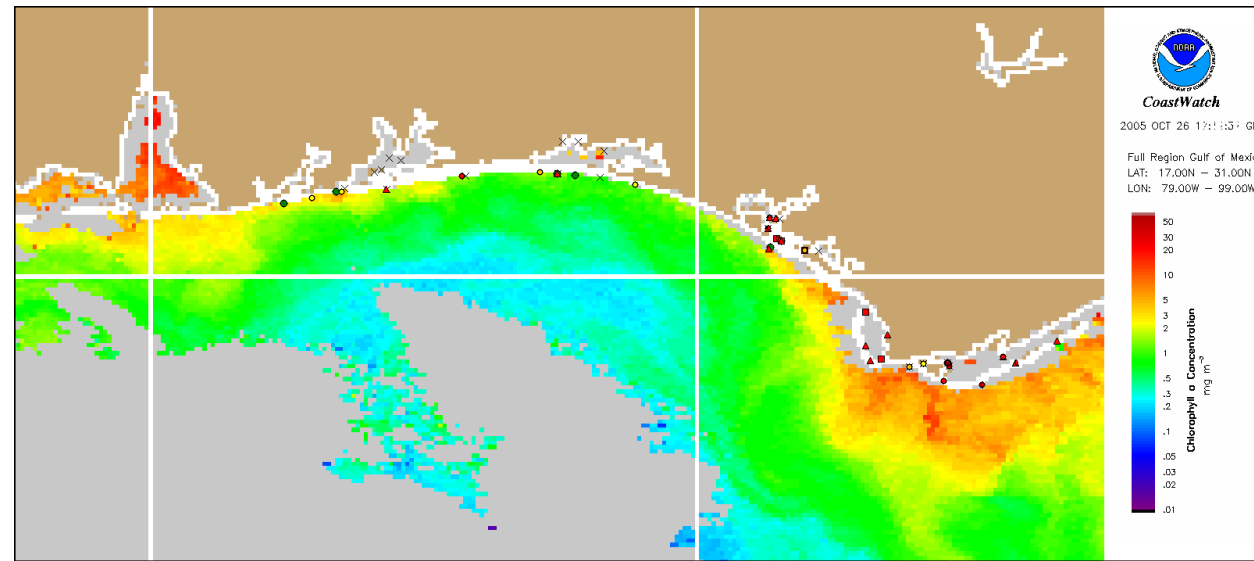
Last bulletin: October 27, 2005

Conditions: Harmful algal blooms have been identified in Pinellas County, Dixie to Levy County and in very small patches from Manatee to Collier County in Florida. A secondary bloom has been identified in patches along Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. No impacts are expected along the coast from Pinellas to Collier County or from Dixie to Levy County today through Sunday. Patchy very low to low impacts are possible from Wakulla to Okaloosa County, FL and Baldwin to Mobile County, AL today through Sunday. Dead fish have been reported in Bay and Okaloosa Counties over the past few days. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as red tide.

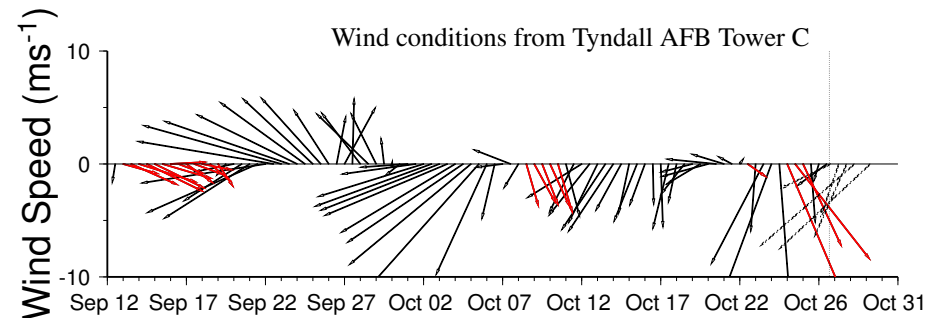
Analysis: A harmful algal bloom remains in patches along the Florida Panhandle and Alabama coast; however dissipation is apparent. *K. brevis* concentrations have subsided to very low levels in Franklin County, Florida, and in the Mobile Bay, Alabama region (FWRI and Alabama Department of Public Health, 10/25). Chlorophyll levels are elevated along the Florida Panhandle coastline due to Hurricane Wilma resuspension events. Bloom extent analysis is limited; however, a small patch of elevated chlorophyll (up to $17 \mu\text{g/L}$) is visible via satellite imagery offshore of Cape San Blas at $85^{\circ}9'W$, $29^{\circ}25'N$. Results of a wind transport model indicate possible bloom movement 20-25km westward since October 24. Dead fish were reported in Bay and Okaloosa Counties over the past few days. Northerly and northeasterly winds will minimize impacts at the beach through Sunday; with greater possibilities for impacts in bay areas of Bay and Okaloosa Counties and on Sunday in Wakulla through Gulf Counties. Westerly and offshore transport and/or expansion is possible. Reports of discolored water in the Florida Panhandle are likely. ~Fisher, Bronder

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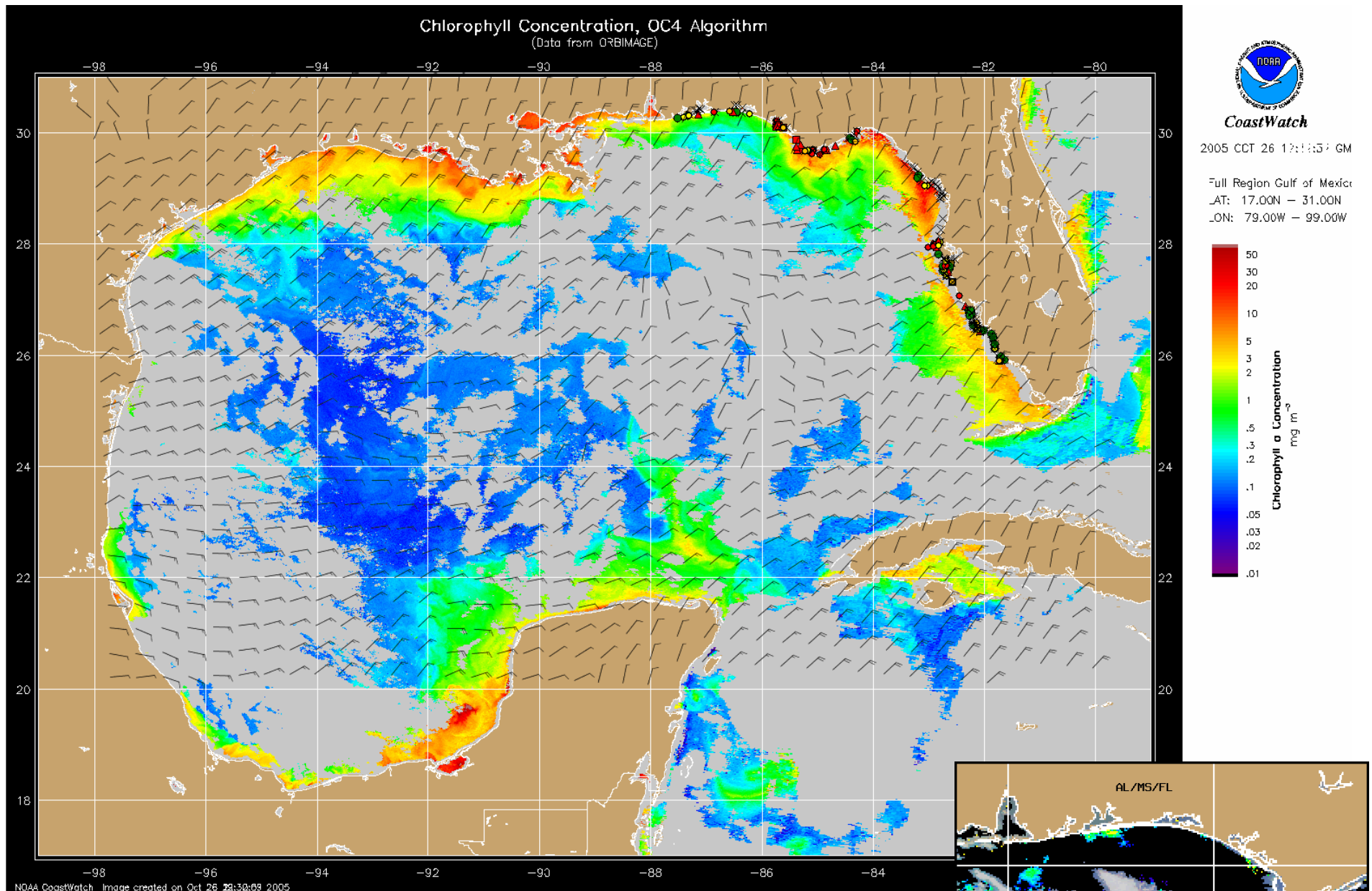


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

FL Panhandle and Alabama Coast: Variable northeasterly and northerly winds expected through Saturday (5-15kts, 3-8m/s; up to 20kts, 10m/s on Friday and Saturday); becoming easterly on Sunday at 10-15kts (5-8m/s).



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for October 28, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from October 19, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis)

